

Uses for the *USCS* Report Data*

Data from this report provide a basis for research, cancer control planning, health communications, and policy development efforts. Below are examples that illustrate these potential data uses:

- Describing the variability in cancer incidence and death rates across different populations and identifying patterns.
- Determining differences in the cancer burden in similar states or regions to guide planning efforts for cancer control programs. (Refer to Guidance for Comparing States' Cancer Data.)
- Identifying populations at risk for certain cancers and developing effective, evidence-based cancer prevention and control activities for these groups.
- Helping design, implement, and expand comprehensive cancer control efforts.
- Providing information for a national database of cancer incidence and mortality data that can be used in conducting data linkages and designing special studies.
- Responding to community and media inquiries on cancer incidence and cancer mortality.
- Developing Web-based resources to help state health departments plan effective cancer prevention and control activities (e.g., Cancer Control PLANET).
- Developing culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate materials to communicate with diverse racial and ethnic audiences.
- Developing guidelines, policy, or legislation to strengthen or enhance cancer control efforts.
- Conducting special studies to advance clinical, epidemiologic, and health services research.
- Providing information to help state registries improve the quality and usefulness of their data and to link with other databases.
- Setting priorities for allocating health resources.

* Refer to *Technical Notes—Interpreting the Data* section (http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/npcr/uscs/2002/pdf/technical_notes.pdf) in the *U.S. Cancer Statistics: 2002 Incidence and Mortality* report.

